

Remarks

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for her assistance during the telephone conference held with the undersigned attorney on October 30, 2007.

In accordance with that discussion, Applicants are now filing a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and the present amendment. The present amendment replaces all of the claims currently on appeal with the new claims enclosed herewith. As a result, the pending appeal will be deemed withdrawn upon entry of these claims.

Among other things, the present claims call for the provision of a hollow tube or a coronary wire; at least a portion of the hollow tube or the coronary wire comprising a porous membrane; and an oxygenated fluorocarbon solution incorporated in the porous membrane; wherein the porous membrane has a porosity in the range of 20-200 microns.

As discussed with the Examiner during the telephone conference, Applicants believe that the construction recited in these new claims is a new and non-obvious advance over the prior art. Among other things, the pore size is a significant feature of the present invention since it allows the oxygenated fluorocarbon solution to enter the bloodstream directly, without requiring the use of emulsifiers to prevent embolisms. As suggested by the Examiner, Applicants are now preparing an Affidavit discussing in detail the unique aspects and advantages of Applicants' novel construction.

On account of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 35-57 are patentable over the prior art of record. Early and favorable reconsideration is therefore respectfully requested.

In the event that any additional fees may be required in this matter, please charge the same, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 16-0221.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

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